



Foggy Bottom News

Published for and by the Citizens of Foggy Bottom

September, 1982

Volume 27, No. 1

Meeting

**Foggy Bottom Association
Monday, September 27**

**St. Paul's Parish House
2430 K Street, N.W.
8:00 P.M.**

All are welcome

Whitehurst Freeway Reconstruction—DOT Project Manager to Hear Neighborhood Views

The first of our guest speakers this fall will be Ms. Lynne Robinson, project manager for the reconstruction of the Whitehurst Freeway. She will be accompanied by other members of our city's Department of Transportation. Ms. Robinson will be here to explain how the Whitehurst Freeway may be reconstructed and to listen to our reactions to the tentative plan.

This summer the first in a year long series of meetings was held in order to explore the possible modification of the Whitehurst Freeway. The Freeway runs from Key Bridge in Georgetown to K Street in Foggy Bottom. When these meetings conclude, three alternative proposals for the Freeway will be made. Each proposal must address specific concerns. Included among those concerns are:

1) A desire to not increase the commuter traffic on the Freeway;

2) A desire to minimize intrusion of commuter traffic in Foggy Bottom;

3) An assessment of the freeway's impact on local planning and development, including historic preservation.

Jenny Brake (ANC representative), Lucille DuPrat (FBA), Jimmy Molinelli (West End Citizens), Robert Brewster and Tom Miller are members of a study group that has been formed in order to address neighborhood concerns. Deliberations have progressed to a point in which there is a need for direct citizen input on several of these proposals. Because the eastern terminus of the Freeway is in our neighborhood, any proposal will have a very noticeable impact in our community. We have an opportunity to decide if a major arterial highway will complement or destroy the residential character of Foggy Bottom. I urge our members and friends in Foggy Bottom to attend this meeting.

Columbia Plaza's Bizarre Bazaar

The Columbia Plaza Tenants Association is holding a BIZARRE BAZAAR on Saturday, September 25, between the hours of 11:00 AM and 5:00 PM. It will be on the shopping plaza which is off 23rd Street between Virginia and E.

On sale will be all kinds of

used (but not abused!) items, from books and records to chinaware and art work. Refreshments will be available. All proceeds will be donated to the CPTA to help defray the cost of legal expenses in connection with the attempt to convert Columbia Plaza to condominiums.

Crime is an aspect of life that most of us feel relatively insulated against. We do all of the "proper" things, get dead bolt locks for our doors, leave exterior lights burning throughout the night, bolt our ground floor windows closed, exercise caution when out after dark and consequently feel somewhat secure. Those "proper" exercises are no longer enough. We like to think of Foggy Bottom as a haven of safety in the city. This is no longer the case.

Beginning this month, Bob Alcorn, our Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, will report each month those crimes that have been reported to him. By becoming aware of the real crime picture in our neighborhood we will be more aware of the activities of "strangers" passing through

our neighborhood and be even more cautious when out-of-doors on our own. You are encouraged to contact Bob if you see any activity of a suspicious nature, or wish to become an active participant in the Neighborhood Watch program.

On the lighter side we are also introducing two new columns this month. PRIMAL SCREEN THERAPY is a review of movies being shown at repertory theaters in the Foggy Bottom area, written by Karen Jaehne Latham. Karen is a resident of Foggy Bottom who besides being a film critic extraordinaire also happens to be the Secretary of the Foggy Bottom Association. FROM THE BOTTOM UP is a column whose author has chosen the pen name of Puck. It is hoped that this column, which

is fashioned after the Washington Magazine's Ebenezer Hob Column, will serve as a sometimes mischievous conscience of the neighborhood.

A third new column, written by neighborhood resident Dan Haslam, Esq., will provide answers to selected legal questions posed by residents of Foggy Bottom.

We also have an update on the Foggy Bottom Playground effort and a remembrance of a resident who was a good friend to many of us.

Readers are encouraged to submit articles for publication in future issues. The staff of the Foggy Bottom News is also seeking an Assistant Advertising Manager. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact Ed Winterbottom.

Crime Watch

**Foggy Bottom Needs You!!!
Join the Neighborhood Watch!!!**

By Bob Alcorn

Several months ago as a direct result of increased crime in the Foggy Bottom-West End area a Neighborhood Watch committee was formed. Starting out with the Swarthmore and Bader Apartments near 25th and K Streets, it fanned out all over our part of town. Aided by local reports in the news media, meetings at which police officers spoke, and talks given by committee members to whomever would listen, a number of apartment buildings and private home owners joined us.

Many of these were motivated by robberies in the buildings concerned and all seemed genuinely interested in pushing the Watch Program to the hilt. The Foggy Bottom Association took up the cause and encouraged its members to join the program. However, even with all the publicity there are vast areas not covered by the program. Our citizenry appears to be either unconcerned about the problem

or unwilling to devote time and effort to set up Neighborhood Watch in their buildings or homes.

On August 31 following a series of armed hold-ups of persons walking toward or along the walk which runs next to the Plaza Apartments and behind the 2500 block of I Street (between 25th and 26th Streets), Rick Churchill, Ellie Becker, and Bob Alcorn, Foggy Bottom Association/Neighborhood Watch members met with Captain Murray and others of the 2nd District Police as well as officers from the Robbery and Communications Squads to thrash out the problems of police protection, surveillance, crime reporting, and crime follow-ups.

The police informed us of what they were doing, what they expected to do, offered new numbers which should be used to report crimes, and summarized how the various departments within the police department are run. They em-

phasized the great importance of the Neighborhood Watch and offered advice on how we as citizens could aid the police in reporting crime and preventing crime or at least slowing it down through a general awareness of our local citizenry for each other, our property and our lives. To do this, we must organize the Watch on every block and in every building throughout the neighborhood, not just here and there.

Just before 10 PM on August 31st there was another hold-up on the walkway behind the 2500 block of I Street. In this case the robbery was foiled by a resident of I Street. Knowing that the walkway is used by many of our neighbors on their way from the Kennedy Center to their homes on 26th Street or Queen Anne's

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A New Editor For the Foggy Bottom News



We must bid farewell to Editor Kathy Haley who has accepted a position in New York helping to run the New York Bureau of the Broadcasting Magazine. Kathy's hard work and dedication to the community and to the Foggy Bottom News has been greatly appreciated. Kathy's husband, Rick Churchill, has assured us, however, that Kathy will be returning to the Bottom on weekends, so those of you who have not already done so will still have the opportunity to express your thanks in person.

The new editor of the Foggy Bottom News is Deborah Cahill-Zelinka. Ms. Cahill received her B.A. in Psychology from the University of Texas, Austin and has been a resident of Foggy Bottom for eight years. She is married to Bill Zelinka and is the mother of 21 month old William. Three days a week Deborah works as a Senior Labor Relations Specialist. One of her responsibilities in that position is the creation, writing and production supervision of two monthly newsletters for managers and executives. She is also Chairwoman of the Foggy Bottom Playground Drive.

Executive Board Meeting

The newly elected Foggy Bottom Association Executive Board held their first meeting August 9 to establish the procedures and priorities of the Board for the coming year.

The Foggy Bottom News editor and advertising manager were introduced and invited to attend all future meetings, since the Foggy Bottom News is virtually the central computer of the association. Deborah Cahill-Zelinka and Ed Winterbottom offered ideas for changing the format and enlarging the circulation of the News. Ms. Cahill also put out a call for contributions from neighborhood writers.

Bob Alcorn reported on an increase in crime in the neighborhood, which is following a pattern known in other affluent parts of the city. To combat this trend, private groups have been organizing a patrol or "neighborhood watch" to monitor all kinds of crime and make sure the police are informed.

The oft-disputed parking problem in Foggy Bottom has led people to park illegally in apparently convenient places. "Beware of the fire lane," was the word issued, after the recent fire at the Savoy. The fire truck came promptly enough but could not enter the alley, because cars were parked in the fire lane.

The Board passed a resolution to ask the Dept. of Environmental Services and DOT for a fence behind the 26th St. slope where strange goings-on have been observed, as possible criminals escaped. It is thought that a fence in that area will deter the rear guard from the river from coming into the neighborhood for less than salutary reasons. Anybody interested in doing the bureaucratic work necessary to make that fence appear should report in at the FBA's next meeting.

Thoughts on a No-Deposit No-Return Monument

by Karen Jaehne Latham

The controversy over a no-deposit, no-return culture has never been more evident than in the "artwork" erected in Foggy Bottom. This Whirlwind of the appliances and necessities of the American Way of Life has been called "unnecessary," "un-American," and "short-circuited" if not short-sighted. As a whirlwind it revolves majestically to the sky, evoking despair and most other modern existential emotions. And it is as unwelcome as any whirlwind ever was. Like the weather it is unpredictable, threatening—and, of course, boring.

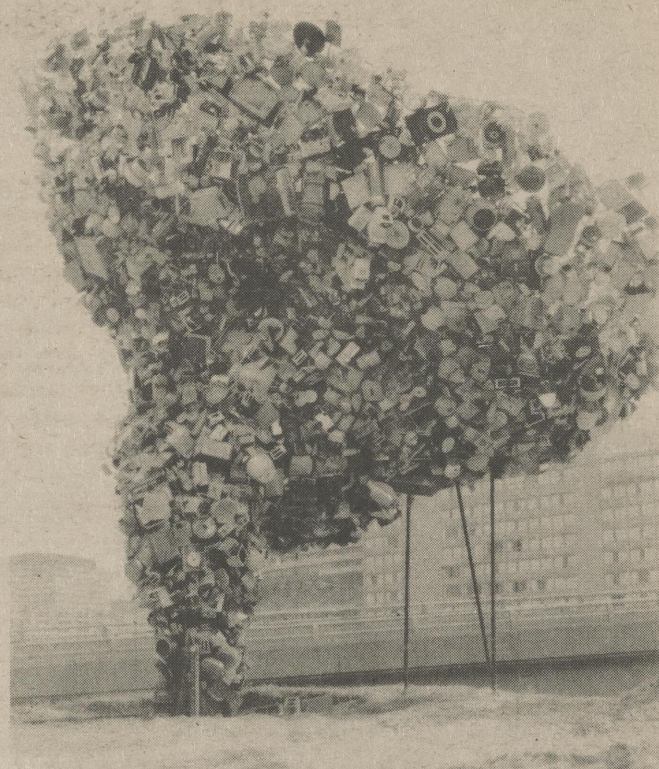
The Whitehurst Freeway provides the best perspective on the monument. While you are backed up in your next traffic jam, you can contemplate the majesty of nature which has been eclipsed by Howard Johnsons and the Watergate, and finally, in a smashing crescendo, this total concentration of visual blight.

You hear a lot about visual blight these days, but nobody has come up with a word for the visual equivalent to cacophony. All those television sets in the whirlwind are not doing enough. Had they been plugged in before being tossed in, we might speak of cacovideophany or videocacia—yet to be entered in Webster's. Yet, it is not that recent a problem.

In its very origins, this neighborhood has never inspired metaphysical or poetic adjectives. "Foggy Bottom" now rises like the mire, bog and fog it once was, transformed into a technological tangle of trash.

Trash can be edifying. This monument may not be beautiful, but it is instructive—a not too gentle reminder that our lives are a cyclone of gadgetry—and better for that, we believe. Seen as a memorial, one wonders how many lifetimes consumed how much of this junk. And as a subject of Foggy Bottom chit-chat, it vies justifiably with the condoquandary.

The best solution may be to allow this spot to be grounds for a revolving monument—to causes worth not more than 6 months' contemplation.



Controversial "Whirlwind"

Foggy Bottom News

The Foggy Bottom News is a publication of the Foggy Bottom Association. All editorial and other assistance is contributed on a volunteer basis by residents of the area.

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Circulation Eleanor Becker

Contributing Writers

Primal Screen Therapy Karen Jaehne Latham
Legal Ease Dan Haslam
Crime Watch Bob Alcorn
From the Bottom Up Puck

All announcements, letters, articles, etc., welcome but must be typed. Send to:

FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

% West End Library
24th & L Sts., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Next issue deadline: October 3

The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writers. Their appearance here constitutes neither an endorsement nor official policy of the Foggy Bottom Association.

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Swings for Soggy Bottom Babies—Chapter Three

Not one of us ever thought that the acquisition of playground equipment for neighborhood children would be such a difficult venture. As you already know, last April the D.C. Department of Transportation approved our application for a portion of the land on 26th Street N.W. for use as a playground.

In May, the parents of Foggy Bottom Babies earned several hundred dollars for the purchase of playground equipment at the Spring Block Party. However, having discovered that the amount of money earned will only pay for a slide, we searched for a supplemental source of funds.

At the suggestion of mayoral candidate Charlene Drew Jarvis, we arranged to testify at hearings on Community Development Block Grants. The week before the hearing was spent collecting signatures on a petition requesting funds for playground equipment. Several hundred of our neighbors signed the petition in support of our efforts. The enthusiasm and encouragement expressed by our neighbors during the petition drive was inspiring.

On June 17, 1982, Deborah Cahill-Zelinka, Maureen Holscher and Maryanna Kieffer presented their case before the Committee on Community Development. We spoke of the changing demography of Foggy Bottom, our desire to maintain and enhance the residential nature of the area, and the fact that the nearest playground is over a mile away, in upper Georgetown.

We concluded our testimony by asking for a small grant to purchase equipment for a neighborhood playground. Our request was miniscule in comparison to the amounts, in the millions of dollars, being requested by other areas of the city. The Committee recommended approval of our request.

The next hurdle was to gain approval of the full City Council. The Mayor's office asked the Council to deny our request citing their interpretation of the regulations and saying that we did not qualify for such grants because we were not a low or moderate income neighborhood.

The City Council, however, voted unanimously to approve our request, as the Council members concluded that such a grant was possible under a category which provided funding for emerging situations. A final hurdle remains. That is gaining approval of the Department of Housing and Urban Development which administers the Community Block Grant Development funds. We will know if the grant has been finally approved by October 1, 1982.

In the meantime, Bridget Quinn of Councilman John Wilson's office has been creatively and energetically seeking alternative sources for playground funding. It may be possible for us to combine the resources of several D.C. departments in order to pull the project together. We will keep you informed of our progress.

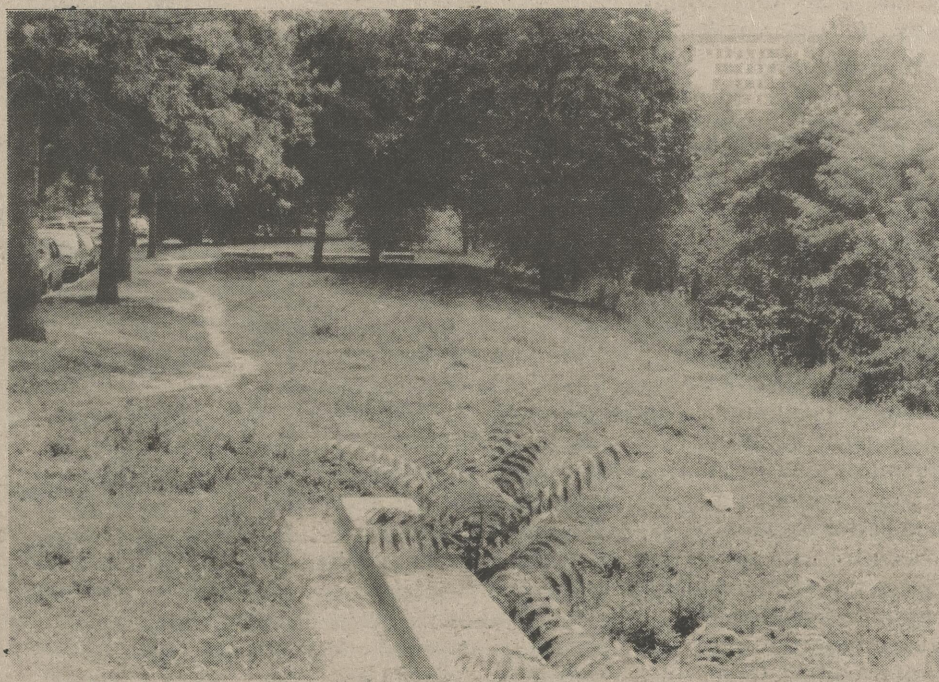
Timothy Evans, who is a graphic designer and resident

of Foggy Bottom, was kind enough to design the layout for the playground equipment. Tim's design incorporates the equipment that we have selected in a manner that maintains the integrity of the existing park area and meets the requirements for safety in playground design.

The playground, which will be located in the grassy area between K Street and the existing brick area of the park on 26th Street, will contain swings, a slide, a sandbox, a climbing apparatus and two stationary game tables. None of the trees will be disturbed. We also plan to enclose the playground area with a four foot high fence of a construction which allows for complete visibility into the play area.

Update: John Wilson's office has been unofficially informed that our request for a community development block grant has been denied by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Apparently the D.C. Department of Housing saw fit to enclose a cover letter with the Community Development Block Grant package specifically pointing out their concerns as to the legality of awarding a grant to Foggy Bottom—a neighborhood which in their view does not qualify as a low or moderate income area or as an area which is the source of an "emerging situation".

However, we will be energetically working with District Departments of Transportation and Recreation to obtain playground equipment from alternative sources.



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ANC NEWS

Excerpts from the Summer meeting of the Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2A).

The ANC office is located at 1920 G Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006. Phone number is 659-0011. Meetings are regularly held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM. The elected members of the Commission for 1982-83 are Lou Rigdon, Maria Tyler, Geoffrey Stamm, Steve Levy, Jimmy Molinelli, Ed Terry and Ralph Rosenbaum. Rick Churchill is the administrative assistant.

Commissioner Terry appointed Mary Jane Coolen as his special assistant and this action was confirmed unanimously by the Commission.

Economic Development: 7-11: Commissioner Stamm informed the ANC that the Southland Corporation will begin renovation of the old Nichols Market in September. The store will most likely be open by the end of the year.

Liquor License: A Japanese restaurant has applied for a ABC license at the premises of 2423 Pa. Ave. There was no citizen opposition to the application.

Environment: Gallinger Playground: Ellen McDougall, representative from the Department of Recreation, was present to respond to ANC concerns about Gallinger Playground behind Grant School on the 2100 block of F Street. The ANC wishes to take over the responsibility of maintaining the playground area, but the issue of being able to lock up the facilities at night runs counter to DOR procedure. The question of maintaining the grounds as well as crime resulting from unsupervised hour at the playground has prevented the signing of an agreement.

GWU has offered to provide security in the area. The ANC wishes to pursue this offer after the agreement between the ANC and DOR is signed. Chairman Levy appointed Commissioner Molinelli, Terry and himself as a special *ad hoc* committee to pursue the signing of an agreement.

Crime Report: Bob Alcorn, head of the neighborhood watch program, shared information on the recent increase in crime this past summer. 26th and I Streets, 25th and K Streets and the 2100 blocks of F Street have had high crime rates.

26TH and K St. Sculpture: In recent weeks there has been a great deal of controversy over the construction of the temporary sculpture south of 26th and K Sts. Members of the Washington Project for the Arts as well as the artist attended this meeting and answered questions concerning the length of stay the 'whirlwind' will have and its aesthetic effect on the neighborhood. While most citizens did not like the structure, most, expressed a temporary tolerance through its completion and agreed upon the six-month length of stay.

Medical Clinics: There are a number of medical clinic conversions and constructions occurring on the 900, 1000 and 1100 blocks of New Hampshire Ave. The ANC was concerned that these facilities may not be in conformance to all zoning regulations. Commissioner Levy noted, however, that the Zoning Administrator had verbally decided the question of whether clinics were allowed in the C-2-C districts as part of the residential FAR. This decision was as we had argued, that clinics are not allowed.

Housing: 925 25th Street: There was a hearing scheduled by the RAO concerning the illegal conversion of residential units at 925 25th Street to transient use. Tony Cresswell had requested that the hearing of August 9 be postponed. Because of continued irregularities it was deemed best to begin the hearings all over again. The ANC concurred with this approach and passed a resolution supporting a postponement of the hearing.

Transportation: Whitehurst Freeway: Jenny Brake, ANC representative to the Whitehurst Freeway Corridor Study, reported on a number of options this group is considering for the eastern portion of the freeway which abuts Foggy Bottom. One suggestion is a tunnel extending from Washington Circle to 26th Street. However, the noise and aesthetic problems of such a tunnel have not been addressed. Since this study group will begin to narrow its options on this and other portions of the Whitehurst Freeway, Ms. Brake reiterated her conviction to favor options which would not allow for an increase of commuter traffic, would eliminate existing rampways and would respect the residential character of the area. The residents and commissioners present agreed with this approach.

Bus Ban: The final hearing took place the second week in September. Commissioner Tyler queried Mayor Barry on the validity of rumors that he favored Conrad Cafritz in this case. He denied the rumor and reiterated support of the bus ban in Foggy Bottom. There is a need for volunteer help for producing a typed transcript and Lila Roper will coordinate this activity. Commissioner Levy offered a resolution to extend the expiration date of matching funds until October 31.

Ralph Rosenbaum was selected commissioner for SMD-01 at a special meeting held at Columbia Hospital on Aug 5th.

Zoning: Square 24 alley closing: Representatives from the Oliver Carr Company presented development plans on the square bordering on M, N, 24th, and 25th Streets and the details of three separate alley closings. Also heard were representatives of BNA Inc and Trustees for B&W Parking (in bankruptcy proceedings) and Phillip Brown of B&W. After considerations of the facts presented, and pending a 8/16/82 informational presentation by Boston Properties, US News and Skidmore Owings & Sherril (representing US News property which fills out the balance of the square), the ANC decided to take no action.

26 & K Street: Chair Ellie Becker reported on the tentative findings on the PUD proposal for the corner of 26th and K Streets. Major areas of concern focused on the C-2-C zoning, the change from a two step to one step PUD process, number of units, building height and massing. The decision by the Zoning Commissioner whether to schedule a hearing on this PUD is scheduled for Oct. 18th. It was emphasized that all work had to be done promptly. On Sept 9 the *ad hoc* committee will meet again and decide how and when to submit its findings to the ANC and Foggy Bottom Association.

Foggy Bottom Community Wins Awards for "A Visible Difference"

By William Matthews

Mayor Marion O. Barry's District-wide spring clean-up campaign and beautification program culminated recently in a festive Awards Ceremony on July 9 at Western Plaza, adjacent to the District Building.

A Committee of business, civic and District agency leaders, including Mary Healy of Foggy Bottom, selected the winners from a field of about 100 entries. Among the award winners for beautiful lawns and gardens were many Foggy Bottom entrants. These included St. Mary's Court, Columbia Hospital for Women, Potomac Plaza and The Plaza.

The purpose of the campaign was to acknowledge and recognize those in D.C. who have made significant contributions to the beauty of the city through care of their lawns and gardens and to instill a spirit of community pride and accomplishment.

A large crowd of civic leaders, entrants, friends and others attended the Award Ceremony which featured music by the U.S. Marines, refreshments and speeches. The awards were presented by Mayor Barry who had inspired and initiated the spring clean-up campaign.

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Send your checks for any amount made out to The Friends of the West End Branch Library to: Robert F. Alcorn, Chairman, The Friends of the West End Branch Library, 1010 25th Street, N.W., #711, Washington, D.C. 20037. Do it now . . . don't let this wonderful opportunity pass us by. . . .

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Legal Ease

By Dan Haslam, Esq.

Specific legal questions may be addressed to the columnist, in care of this paper, and may be answered in this column. Only questions put in writing will be answered, and individual answers cannot be given apart from those presented in the column. Answers are intended for general use only, and may not apply to your specific situation. Answers do not necessarily reflect the opinions of this newspaper.

Q. Recently, I have become disillusioned with my job and feel that I can do just as well working for myself. My friends suggest one of the first steps is to incorporate. Why would this be helpful, and what are some of the considerations?

A. The process of incorporation merely entails establishing a contract between the incorporators and the government to create a new entity, often a profit-oriented business. D.C. law requires that corporations be governed by at least three individuals at all times. These individuals are called directors and can usually be family members. The corporation, when formed, issues stock representing own-

ership, and must have a minimum of \$1000 of capital, or start-up money, paid into the treasury. This requirement helps to protect outside individuals who deal with the corporation at its beginning.

The chief value of a corporation is in its ability to shield you personally from liability for debts of the corporation. Because of its independent status, the corporation's errors generally won't result in your losing your personal property in satisfaction of claims made against the corporation.

You must be prepared in setting up a corporation for some red tape. In exchange for the benefit of limited liability, certain formalities must be undertaken, including annual meetings and fees and filings with the DC government. However, there are numerous tax advantages to corporate existence.

Q. I have lived with my girlfriend for a little more than six years, and recently my buddies have kidded me about "seven years" as the magic year in which we will have a common law marriage. Is this true?

A. No. In DC there is no magic year or number of years in which two individuals of opposite sex must live together in order to be married under the common, or judge-made law. If certain criteria are met in your relationship with your girlfriend, however, you could be married right now. It does not take a minister or other official to marry people in DC; you can do it yourself!

First, you must have the capacity to be married. Were you single before you became involved with this girlfriend? If you have an intent to be married to this individual and have cohabitated with her, that's about all you'll need. There has to be some sort of "holding out" (e.g. introducing your girlfriend as your wife, or signing a motel registry "Mr. and Mrs.") for proof purposes. Common law marriages are the easy route to marital bliss in D.C.—there is, however, no similar route to divorce.

Dan Haslam is a practicing attorney with an office and residence in Foggy Bottom.

Primal Screen Therapy

By Karen Jaehne Latham

The intent of this column will be to encourage you to abandon other forms of relaxation and entertainment and—do it at the movies!

Those who were disastrously disappointed in Woody Allen's latest attempt at humor, *Midsummer Night's Sex Comedy*, which was about none of the above except *Midsummer Night*, are encouraged to look at the AFI's offerings in their Marx Brothers at Paramount series.

Foreign film enthusiasts can tap the AFI again for Hungarian films in September, the best being *Confidence*.

Literature lovers can watch Hemingway on the screen, also at AFI. Thriller seekers will be overjoyed at the Biograph's festival of older films by Alfred Hitchcock, including the early *The Man Who Knew Too Much* (1934) with Leslie Banks and Peter Lorre. Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman make a stylish duo in Hitch's velvety smooth *Notorious*—a cine-qua-non of cinephiles.

Foggy Bottom Bus Ban

by Maria Tyler

The public hearing related to the D.C. Department of Transportation's Order 80-174 which prohibits bus traffic on specified streets of Foggy Bottom ended on September 7, 1982. As we all well recall, the hearing began on February 10, 1982 and there were a total of 15 sessions! This was DOT's first contested case hearing related to traffic regulations within the meaning of the D.C. Administrative Procedures Act.

To prepare our case in support of the D.C. Department of Transportation, ANC 2A and the FBA retained legal counsel. Moreover, a number of citizens dedicated extensive personal time to assist in the preparation and follow-up of this case. Finally, citizens have contributed overwhelmingly toward meeting the large legal expenses which have been incurred. Our thanks go to the following additional neighbors who have made financial contributions since the publication of the last issue of the

Foggy Bottom News; Claudine Day, Irene Parsons, Greta Schuessler, and The Claridge House Cooperative Apartment Building.

However, our work is not yet over. After four sessions, DOT ran out of funds to meet the cost of a court stenographer. As a result, the testimony was tape-recorded, and the community has been forced to assist in the transcription of the tapes. Finally the findings of fact and conclusions of law must be submitted to the Hearing Examiner by November 30, 1982. Therefore, we urgently need more funding. Please continue to be generous in protecting our community. Please send your contributions to ANC 2A for the FOGGY BOTTOM BUS BAN, c/o Maria Tyler, 949 25th Street, N.W., 20037.

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From the Bottom Up

She usually stood on the stoop of the weathered grey apartment building on the corner of 25th and I Streets, her dirty grey hair pulled back in a pony tail, her shapeless green housedress covered with spots from forgotten meals. Most of us ignored her, except perhaps to grimace in disgust when she leaned to the side of the stoop to spit onto the grass.

Those of us who occasionally waved to her could see the lonesome look in her veiny red eyes. We knew that she would have liked us to stop and talk with her even if just for a minute, but no one ever seemed to have time, as if stopping to talk would somehow befoul us as well.

The stoop is empty now. The Coroner has come and gone. I didn't even know her name. If I had stopped and talked to her would it have made the difference?

* * *

Oh for the days on the frontier! Me and my trusty BB gun! What a team! Only instead of shooting the outlaws, I'd declare war on the bad guys in those yellow or black or blue (or whatever color suits the owner) stagecoaches that say TAXI. As they use our streets for drag races in the quest for passengers from the River Inn, I'd shoot out their tires. Maybe that would slow them down.

* * *

Speaking of drag races, you don't need to go to Laurel to see fancy driving. Just pick any street in Foggy Bottom between eight and nine A.M. or five and six P.M. Some maneuvers defy the laws of physics. How come most of the cars have Virginia or Maryland plates?

Don't they know that you need a parking permit to park for more than two hours? Or is it really cheaper to pay for a ticket than to pay for parking

in a lot? I know! There really is a counterfeit parking permit service operating out of Foggy Bottom.

Whatever the case, wouldn't it be wonderful if we residents had mini "boots" that we could attach to the car doors of offenders, thus locking them into their cars, whenever they have zipped into the parking space right in front of our house, parking in the wrong direction of course, just as we were pulling up to park from that spot where we have been patiently waiting for twenty minutes for a vacant space.

Puck

Puck will accept mail at the Foggy Bottom Library care of the Foggy Bottom News. If there is something that you'd like to get off of your chest or some wonderful thing that you would feel silly getting a byline for and Puck shares your sentiments, Puck will do it for you in this column.

Residents of St. Mary's Court Enjoy Gala Cruise on the Potomac

By William Matthews

Tuesday, June 29, 1982, witnessed a remarkable example of joint community effort by the private, public service and non-profit sectors of our society. The Kiwanis Club (public service), The Washington Boat Lines (private) and St. Mary's Court (non-profit) jointly sponsored a delightful evening cruise along the Potomac for the residents of the Court, aboard the Washington Boat Lines' ship "Diplomat."

Joining the residents were the Kiwanians and their wives, present and past members of the St. Mary's Court Board of Directors, staff members of the Court, friends and guests.

The late afternoon showers disappeared and the weather was clear, cool and breezy for the cruise. Jim Brennan, Marriott's food service supervisor at the Court, and his staff prepared tables of cold cuts, salads, baked beans, etc. for everyone on board and both the upper and lower decks had an open bar. The Milton Collins Combo provided lively and familiar music and the upper deck dance floor was crowded all evening. The Dance Class of St. Mary's Court and its instructor, Rod Burford, added to the dance floor festivities. The Kiwanis Club also presented Craig Karges with his very entertaining and surprising "Magic of the Mind" show.

The "Diplomat" sailed to

Mt. Vernon and upon its return to its dock at the Washington Boat Lines, a very happy and well entertained crowd disembarked.

It was unanimously agreed by all that the cruise had been the biggest and best social event in the history of the Court.

The Kiwanis Club has, in a sense, "adopted" St. Mary's Court and provides many activities for its residents. Chief among these are the Sing-a-Longs which Mac McLachlen has arranged for the residents and the frequent ice cream socials which Kiwanis has also sponsored.

A large debt of gratitude is owed by St. Mary's Court and its residents to the Kiwanis Club and The Washington Boat Lines for their very considerable efforts, time and expense and, most especially, their great community spirit. It clearly demonstrates that, when that community spirit exists, many different elements of our community can work successfully together in accomplishing a common goal.

As Joseph Howell, President of the Board of St. Mary's Court, expressed it, "This community effort represented a fulfillment of the aspirations of all those who so diligently worked for the creation of St. Mary's Court."

A Benefit for Foggy Bottom's Young Seniors

By Mary E. Healy

What do you know? A little known benefit, really helpful to those of us 60 or over who merrily ride around in our motor cars, is available just for the asking.

We youngsters don't have to sit in those long lines at the D.C. Motor Vehicle Inspection Station (unless we want to). All one has to do in order to avoid this nasty chore is to go to the office at the Southwest Station, 1001 Half Street, S.W. (Mon.-Fri., 6 AM to 2 PM), and tell them that you are a Senior Citizen and would like to have your car inspected without waiting in line.

Have your registration card and driver's permit handy in case they ask to see it. You may park right outside the office building at the entrance to the Inspection Station. The D.C. employees in the office are most cooperative.

The Southwest Station is the only station which provides this service. If this is not where you regularly go, remember to switch next time. When I had my car inspected in mid-August I was in and out of the station in 20 minutes. The wait inside the office sure beats sitting in the car outside in the heat or cold.

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A Foggy Bottom Friend Departs

By Mary E. Healy

Foggy Bottom lost a good friend and neighbor during the summer. Paul E. Vaniman passed on to better things on July 22. Van lived in Foggy Bottom for about 25 years, first on Eye Street at 26th Street, for a short time before a demolition crew came in, and then at 2525 Eye Street.

In their early years in the Bottom, Van and Rufus Lisle, co-owners at 2525, were very active in Foggy Bottom affairs; then their jobs interfered and they had to back away. Rufus passed on a few years ago and Van continued to live at 2525. Many of Van's and Rufus' friends will remember their other permanent house guest—a long-haired lovable dachshund named Gretchen, but lovingly called Poo, who thought she owned the neighborhood and knew she owned 2525 Eye Street.

Van, born in New Lebanon, Ohio in 1919, came to Washington, D.C. in 1948. He volunteered for combat duty in Europe and served in the Army from 1942 to 1944. He graduated from college with a degree in English, took his Masters in American Literature at Columbia University, taught English at Mt. Vernon Junior College in Washington and worked as a Training Officer in the Civil Aeronautics Administration (now FAA), where, among other things he taught Plain Understandable Writing.

I was one of Van's prize pupils—he said "he never had any trouble understanding what I was saying in writing—didn't always agree with it—but certainly understood it." I have always been proud of his "graduating" comment to me:

"Keep on doing what you're doing—don't change your writing technique—don't even stop splitting infinitives as no one ever died from that." Van came to the summer FBA Block Party and some of his last words to me were—"You know, I so enjoyed your Seen Around the Bottom column; you never forgot our Letter Writing Course."

Van worked for the Federal Government from 1955 to 1979, first at the Federal Aviation Administration and then for the last 16 years at the Department of the Interior where he worked as Development and Training Officer for the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries and the Office of the Secretary. Van received many Outstanding Awards while at Interior, one was the Meritorious Service Award, which is the Department's Second Highest Award. Interior recognized the same qualities in Van as did his friends and neighbors—he had the ability to relate to people one-on-one in a manner which left you feeling that you had learned something from Van every time you spoke with him.

Quite a few of us can vividly remember standing on a corner for hours talking to Van about Shakespearean plays. If you didn't know anything about Shakespeare when the conversation began, you sure as heck did by the time it finished.

In 1979, after retirement, Van became a Docent at the Folgers Library where he was one of the very few scholars permitted to do research. From what I understand Rufus Lisle's genealogy included



members of the aristocracy of England and when he left us Van was in the process of researching various aspects of their history through the "Lisle Letters."

As I'm sure you can tell, Van was an official and personal friend of mine. I liked him and will miss him, particularly in the mornings when he would walk by our apartment on the way to the McLachlen Bank or to the Safeway. He would often stop and make all kinds of hand signals to indicate what he thought about something which was going on in the neighborhood—"the flowers are beautiful, we've got two more street people in the area, the dogs have been visiting your lawn, isn't it a beautiful day, I'm going on a trip, etc." I'm sure anyone watching Van from the street and Mama and me from the window thought we were all crazy. It was such a nice friendly way to start the day.

There will be a Memorial Service for Paul Vaniman sometime this Fall. Appropriate Notice will be in a local paper.

News and Views from Queen Anne's Lane

By Mary B. Brewster

I don't care what the weather people say, it has been a long, hot summer, and it is wonderful to have cooler weather with us if even for a little while. Anyway, here's the summer's news from the Lane.

Wiley Chambers spent most of the summer interning near his parents' home in Connecticut, later going on to a hospital in Philadelphia. He is back on the Lane now and expects to be here until he finishes at George Washington.

Nimma and Richard Mulens attended a family reunion near Cheyenne. Nimma said it was a happy occasion, one which gave her an opportunity to meet Richard's immediate family.

David and Margaret Mills recently returned from Indonesia and Singapore. In Singapore they saw their new grandson for the first time.

Georgia and Bill Gelabert made their annual pilgrimage to Stratford, Ontario, to see the Shakespeare festival.

I hope you have seen the changes in our park at 26th Street. First, it has been handsomely repaired by the D.C. Department of Transportation. Mr. Metro Truly kindly sent Mr. John Young and his able assistant, Mr. John Henry McCoy, to repair the retaining wall. The stones have been carefully refitted together and the slate pieces, which had been removed by vandals, have been replaced.

Second, a small flower bed

was planted and has been maintained during these months by several Laners. Both actions have added to the beauty and livability of our neighborhood. Our thanks to all concerned.

Josephine Trued's daughter, Sally, was married to Nicholas Andrew Shorter on August 28. Both bride and groom are medical doctors. The wedding ceremony was held at the Luther Place Memorial Church, the reception following at the Sheraton Carlton.

Murdaugh and Eileen Maden have a house guest from Ireland, Miss Orla Batt. Orla is a student at the University of Cork Medical School and will be returning there in September.

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SOMEONE STILL CARES ABOUT QUALITY

News from the Claridge House

At the invitation of the Georg-Friedrich-Handel Gesellschaft, the long-established Handel Society in the German Democratic Republic, Washington Friends of Handel President **Charles Farbstein**, accompanied by **Janet Gutkin**, Second Vice President, attended the 31st Handelfestspiele in Halle, Handel's birthplace, from June 10 to 15. They were honored guests representing the Washington Friends of Handel, an organization which is devoted to the promotion of the music of Handel and his contemporaries.

The festival featured operas and oratorios each evening, including fully staged versions of Handel's "Giulio Cesare" and "Poro," as well as afternoon Baroque Chamber concerts with such soloists as Frans Bruggen, the renowned recorder player.

After the festival, Janet and Charles continued their three and one-half week trip by going to Prague, Budapest, Vienna, Salzburg and Rothenburg ab der Tauber before returning to Frankfurt and their charter flight back to Washington.

Janet described the Handelfestspiele as a "thrilling experience" and said that both she and Charles greatly enjoyed the trip to East Germany and other countries visited. She also reports that the Washington Friends of Handel and the Washington Performing Arts Society are joining to present the Handel Festival Orchestra in its first three-concert series at the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater this fall, beginning with a performance on September 25. The two organizations will also offer a four-concert recital series at the Corcoran Gallery where the members of the orchestra will

be able to display their individual talents.

* * *

Rose Pikus, a frequent visitor to England, spent several delightful weeks there in July. The special attraction for her in England is her sister, who is married to a Britisher, and their family. They live at Kingston-St. Michael, a short drive from Bristol and also from Castle Comb which Rose describes as a "bonny village" where the movie "Dr. Doolittle" was filmed and is the location of Manor House, an historic mansion open to the public and where "the most delicious tea and scones are served."

Rose accompanied the family which includes nephew Jonathan, 10, and nieces Joanne, 8, and Marianne, 5, to Cornwall in southern England for a week of sightseeing, swimming in the Atlantic Ocean and other enjoyable activities. Rose is employed by the General Instrument Company in Crystal City.

Donna Brodsky perhaps has the distinction of being the most traveled resident of the Claridge House. She returned in August from a two-week visit to the East Caribbean area, but it was not for sun bathing, snorkeling or other fun diversions. In a whirlwind trip Donna went to Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, St. Kitts, St. Lucia and St. Vincent islands. The purpose of the trip was related to her duties as a Missions Officer with the Overseas Private Investment Corporation. Other business trips this year have taken Donna to Cairo and a number of cities in Europe.

* * *

Crime Watch

continued from page 1

Lane and hearing the persistent barking of a dog, a member of the Neighborhood Watch went to her back porch and looked down on the walk to see a hold-up in progress.

Either due to the dog or to suddenly seeing the resident, the hold-up men (2) fled the scene. The resident called the 911 number and then the Watch Committee head. Within a few minutes, the police were there and a number of the Watch people in various apartment buildings in the Bottom had been alerted and were watching their areas for the thieves whose description had been furnished by the I Street resident. All this was possible solely due to the quick thinking of a Watch program member who followed instructions.

Fortunately, this happened where there was a Watch member. . . . But . . . there are still too many blocks where no one has expressed an interest in joining the Neighborhood Watch. Please come out and help us fight crime. Remember, the next victim may be YOU. Foggy Bottom needs YOU. . . . The Police need You. . . . You need You. Together we can fight the battle. Alone we may wind up another statistic—if indeed it is even reported.

Crime Watch Phone Numbers:

911 (The Emergency Number) for use when you observe a crime in progress. Get name of person who answers.

A Claridge House resident to whom we reluctantly say "Goodbye" is **Commander Stanley Bloyer**. He is now traveling overseas but will not be returning to the Washington area in the near future as he has been transferred to the Naval Air Station at Cecil Field near Jacksonville, Florida. Stan, who has been serving in the Pentagon as a personal aide to the Chief of Naval Operations, will become Executive Officer of an A-7 Squadron at Cecil Field.

He expects to remain in the post of Executive Officer for approximately 15 months and then assume command of the Squadron. Stan said he was very pleased to have the assignment as he will be returning to flying and is "looking forward to a Mediterranean cruise on an aircraft carrier."

Our congratulations to Stan on his assignment and sincere thanks for his contribution as a member of our Board of Directors. As Chairman of the Financial Committee he has given a great deal of energy and skill to fighting the battle of the Claridge House budget.

* * *

Sally Kelley, a resident who also enjoys traveling, is not planning any trips until at least mid-October. The time she has available after her busy schedule as Director of Agency Liaison at the White House is devoted in large part to parish activities of the Church of St. Stephen Martyr. Sally and her committee helpers have been working for some weeks in preparation for the Church's Fall Luncheon at the Washington Marriott on the afternoon of Sunday, October 3. They are hoping for a repeat of the success of the initial fall luncheon held last October.

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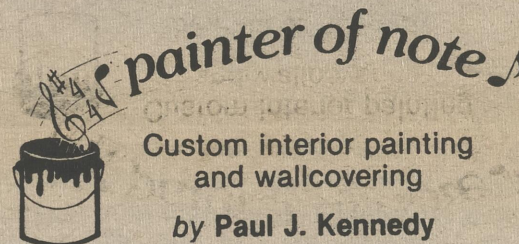
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337-5022 Neighborhood Watch Officer Robert Alcorn—use this to report crime if you do not have a local watch officer in your building or on your street. Note: Bob is a working person and he may not be available to answer at all times.